ITH TOHE PAMBLERS

the Hedgemans, Mountjoys, Col. Thomas Ludwell Lee of Berry Hill and Bellvue, Daniel Carroll Brent of Richland, the Fitzhughs of Boscobel, the Ewells of Belle Air, the Seldens of Salvington, the Waughs of Belle Plaine, Richard Henry Lee of Chantilly, William Fitzhugh of Ravensworth, John Augustine Washington of Bushfield, Richard Stuart of Cedar Grove, Henry Fitzhugh of Bedford, the Chichesters of Newington, Col. Blackburn of Rippon Lodge, the Fairfaxes of Bellvoir and the Washingtons of Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon.

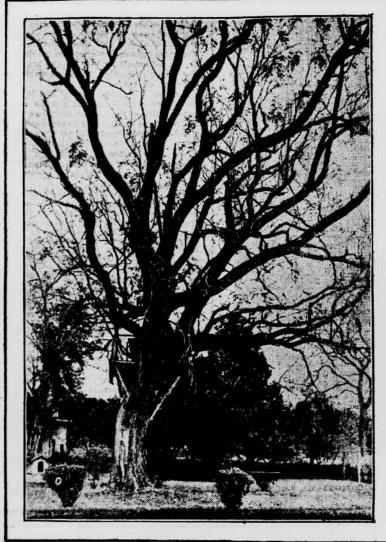
There is no doubt in the mind of the Rambler that all these colonial nota-bles and their families have rested in the shade of that black walnut tree. In addition to these, many of the great characters of the prerevolutionary, the revolutionary and the early republican periods were guests at one

the revolutionary and the early republican periods were guests at one time or another of George Mason of Gunston Hall. He was a man of great influence and his opinion and advice were courted by men who were conspicuous in the public eye in those times.

The Rambler has spent many happy, sunny hours lounging under that tree and dreaming of the sage of Gunston. In the popular understanding George Mason does not bulk large as a founder of the American republic, but the nation owes much to his memory. In the prerevolutionary and Constitution-making eras few men stood as high as Mason. He was a devoted believer in popular government and a magnificent champion of the American commons. He was a might exponent of the theory of a governing system where there should be "liberty without license and authority without despotism." He was the inspiration of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, and they leaned on him for counsel. He was also an inspiration to James Madison, the father of the Constitution, and it was Patrick Henry who gave voice to the sentiments of Mason.

In years long gone the Rambler wrote some meditations on Gunston Hall, and, reflecting on how Mason's mind had influenced many of the prominent figures in our history, wrote:

Mason forged many thonderbolts which other men huffed. He often spoke with the tongues of



sents a Fowke memory and not an an-cestral hall of the Masons in England. The original Gunston Hall was stand-ing when it was visited in 1865 by James M. Mason. It was then owned by the Gifford family, who had owned Roscobel near Gunston where Charles

by the Gifford family, who had owned Boscobel, near Gunston, where Charles II lay concealed after Worcester. In March, 1655, George Mason, 1st, obtained a patent to lands in that part of Northumberland county. Which became Westmoreland county. Among his neighbors were John Washington, the first of the American Washington, and who settled on Bridges creek, or it may have been Popes creek, about a mile and a half to the south; Col. Gerard Fowke, John Leare, Thomas Lunsford, who had been Sir Thomas Lunsford, and Capt. Giles Brent. George Mason, 1st, died about 1686. George Lunsford, and Capt. Giles Brent. George Mason, 1st, died about 1636. George Mason, 2d, lived somewhere on Dogue Neck, perhaps on the lands on which William Fairfax, the cousin and Virginia agent of Thomas Lord Fairfax, built Belvoir. In 1692 he was sheriff of Stafford county, out of which Fairfax county was created. In 1696 he bought of William Sherwood 2,100 acres in Dogue Neck and 200 acres near Little Hunting creek, which later became a

Dogue Neck and 200 acres near Little Hunting creek, which later became a part of the Mount Vernon property. In 1704 he bought the land on which the village of Occoquan stands now, and in 1714, with James Hereford, he bought 2,244 acres about where the village of Accotink stands.

Thus Mason (George, 2d) was married to Mary Fowke, daughter of Grard Fowke, 2d, of Charles county, Md. At her death he married Elizabeth Waugh, daughter of Rev. John Waugh, and he married a third time, but the name of that wife seems not to have been preserved. He had numerous children as the result of the three marriages, and they married into the Fitzhugh, Mercer, Dinwiddie and Bronaugh families.

George Mason, 3d, was the first son of Mason, 2d, and Mary Fowke. He was sheriff of Stafford county and was a member of the Spotswood "Golden Horseshoe" expedition to the 3lue Ridge in 1716. He was also "commanentiments of Mason.

In the county of Stafford. If was a few contributed a property of the stafford of the sta der-in-chief of all his majesty's militia

HE Rambler has recently written of a number of historic trees, or the Playse chestral track had a number of historic trees, or the proportion of this proportion of the Playse chestral track had a number of histor

14th and L streets southeast, and another burial plot, marked as containing six graves, is shown in lot 1025, just west of the west building line of 14th street, midway between N street and Virginia avenue southeast.

A rough and incomplete sketch of the land to the east of the Wheeler property is shown. The circle at the "ashington end of the Pennsylvania Avenue bridge, where a number of streets and avenues meet, is shown on William Baily's farm, "Hop Yard," and 'Mme. Young's mansion," a house 20 by 36 feet, but whether of brick or frame is not shown, stands in square 1106, which land is now covered with the graves of Congressional cemetery.

Mr. Atlee has made a copy of the plot of "Hop Yard," surveyed by George Fenwick, November 4, 1793, "Hop Yard" being then owned by William Baily. He says that this property was not called "Hop Yard" or "The Hop Yard" because hops were grown on the land, but that the name was probably corrupted from "Houp," the name of an earlier owner. With the aid of some old surveys Mr. Atlee has plotted the house of Abraham Young in square 1654, at D street, Kentucky avenue and 14th street east Atlee has plotted the house of Abraham Young in square 1054, at D street, Kentucky avenue and 14th street east "George Walker's mansion" in square 862, at 6th street east and D street north, and "Mrs. Prout's mansion" in square 907, between L and M, 7th and 8th streets southeast. The Prout house was a large one, being 42 by 43 feet. The navy yard stands on what was Prout land.

Old Mount Vernon Souvenirs.

THE business of vending George Washington souvenirs in the National Capital is an old one. This re-flection comes to the Rambler as his eye rests on an old account in The Evening Star of Monday, January 19, trees, the account says several thousand, on the Mount Vernon property,



GUNSTON HALL, THE HOME OF GEORGE MASON.

FEW MEN IN THE UNITED STATES ARE FAMILIAR WITH T The way in the case of the cas



of the rife is more accessary now than the rife is more accessary

Is Estimated That Only One Man in Each Fifty-Three of the 16,000,000 Americans Eligible for Military Duty Knows Anything About Shooting—What the Government, the National Rifle Association and Individuals Are Doing to Create the "Citizenry Trained and Accustomed to Arms" Which President Wilson Says Is the Nation's Dependence—More Training Necessary Today, as the Modern Rifle Is a More Complicated and Dangerous Weapon Than It Ever Was Before.

Weapon Than It Ever Was Before.

Modern Rifle Is a More Complicated and Dangerous Weapon Is a many other distance. Train-to fit is something that we who, year in and year out, have been rifle. Hence its promotion of the orbital statement as a mong Americans. They see in them something that we who, year in and year out, have been rifle. Hence its promotion of the orbital statement as a mong Americans manhood to the use of the shooting game positions. The shooting game positions of the private of the Secretary of War.

Annapolis long has been represented with a strong shooting learn was with a strong shooting learn head them that a strong shooting learn head them that a strong shooting learn head them that a strong shooting may with a strong shooting them head to the country. To make a the subject, Listent of the country of the principal fit of the country of the princi

